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Introduction

This report is submitted in compliance with contractual reporting requirements for Award Number DAMD17-99-1-9289, Institutional Training Program in Breast Cancer. The program is a collaborative effort which includes Meharry Medical College and Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

The program's tasks are to: (1) Recruit Trainees; (2) Recruit Visiting Professors; (3) Enroll additional trainees; and (4) successfully complete the education of at least three trainees as evidenced by publications and secured appointments in the field of breast cancer.

Tasks # 1 and # 3 Trainee Recruitment.

The program has exceeded its goals. We had expected to have one fellow by the end of the first year since originally, it was anticipated that it would take six months to enroll the first trainee, with enrollment of a second or third trainee to occur in the second year of the program. However, we have already identified and enrolled three trainees: Alecia Malin, Dr. P.H., Cass Teague, Ed.D., and Ling Wu, Ph.D. In part, this has been possible because of excellent collaboration and support from the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. Specifically, two of the trainees, Malin and Teague, are supported by both the present training grant and training funds from collaborations between Meharry and Vanderbilt. The joint support is possible because the programs involved have compatible goals, so there is no dilution in the effort going towards breast cancer research. An additional

benefit of these arrangements is that the program should be able to add at least one and possibly more than one fellow this year, thereby increasing its potential for productivity.

That progress has been more rapid than anticipated has also been possible because of the arrival of two new breast cancer researchers at the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Drs. X.O. Shu and W. Zheng. Not only do Drs. Shu and Zheng bring with them several ongoing investigations in breast cancer research, but also they are both committed to the development of new researchers. Dr. Malin had already been working with them, and Drs. Teague and Wu have been introduced at project meetings in July and August. Dr. Shu will be joining the faculty of this project via the Vanderbilt sub-contract. Curricula vitae for all new personnel and trainees are on file at Meharry and are available on request.

Task # 2. Visiting Professors.

The trainees have had the benefit of visits from two prominent researchers, Dr. Phyllis Champion of the University of Indiana and Dr. Charles Hennekens, formerly Eugene Stead Professor at Harvard University School of Medicine and currently visiting professor at the University of Miami School of Medicine. They provided valuable insight into the work of the current fellows and served as catalysts for the future.

Task # 4. Training Program.

A primary goal of the program is to add to the number of

successful breast cancer researchers able to pursue academic careers in this area. Works in progress for the current trainees are:

Dr. Alecia Malin

- (1) Lifestyle factors of participation in Shanghai Women's Health Cohort Study. Body composition, demographic and reproductive factors of women in the Shanghai study will be compared to those from cohort studies of American women.
- (2) Carotenoids and Breast Cancer (an abstract is being prepared for submission to the American Association for Cancer Research).

Dr. Cass Teague

- (1) Peer Counseling for Health Promotion: A critical review of the literature.

Dr. Ling Wu

- (1) Mortality from breast cancer among African Americans and Whites in Tennessee.

Key Research Accomplishments - None

Reportable Outcomes - None